

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A system for ~~quantifying~~ building an engine baseline model for fuel-powered engines ~~quality~~, comprising:

a computer comprising:

a processor;

a memory configured to store a program of instructions;

an engine service database containing engine data for fuel-powered engines;

a preprocessor for processing the engine data into a predetermined format, wherein the preprocessor includes a data segmenting component that segments the engine data into a plurality of groups based upon specific types of engines and further based upon specific time periods during which each data element was measured; and

an engine baseline modeling component that builds an engine baseline model for each of the plurality of groups using ~~a regression~~ regression analysis, wherein the regression analysis relates engine performance variables as ~~a function~~ functions of engine operating ~~conditions~~ parameters; and

a display configured to display at least one aspect of the engine baseline model.

2. (currently amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the data segmenting component segments the engine data into [[a]] the plurality of groups throughout a preselected moving time ~~moving~~ window.

3. (currently amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the data segmenting component segments the engine data into [[a]] the plurality of groups throughout discrete time ranges.

4. (currently amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the engine baseline modeling component generates a set of estimated regression parameters for each of the

plurality of groups based upon the regression analysis, wherein each set of estimated regression parameters are representative of a baseline model for [[each]] that group.

5. (original) The system of claim 4, wherein the engine baseline modeling component calculates a time series for each estimated regression parameter, and wherein the engine baseline modeling component further calculates a trend for each estimated regression parameter over time.

6. (currently amended) The system of claim 4, further comprising:
means for identifying fluctuations in trends for each estimated regression parameter representative of engine faults;
means for evaluating trends having identified fluctuations; and
means for identifying ~~parameter-estimate~~parameters estimating trends relating to baseline trend shifts.

7. (original) The system of claim 6, wherein the preprocessor maps engine data to an uncorrelated data set using a principal component analysis technique.

8. (currently amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the preprocessor comprises a data acquisition component that ~~extract~~ extracts engine data from the engine services database.

9. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein the engine baseline modeling component comprises a metric component that validates the engine baseline model.

10. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein the engine baseline modeling component comprises a heuristics component that generates rules for cleaning the preprocessed data.

11. (original) The system of claim 1, further comprising a model diagnostics component that evaluates performance of the engine baseline model.

12. (currently amended) A computer implemented method for ~~quantifying~~ building an engine baseline model ~~quality~~ for fuel-powered engines, comprising:

storing engine data in an engine service database for fuel-powered engines;

processing the engine data into a predetermined format in a preprocessor, wherein the processing includes ~~a-segmenting~~ segmenting the engine data into a plurality of groups based upon specific types of engines and further based upon specific time periods during which each data element was measured;

building an engine baseline model for each of the plurality of groups using a ~~regression~~ regression analysis, wherein the regression analysis relates engine performance variables as ~~a-function~~ functions of engine operating conditions;

using the engine baseline model to monitor engine status, predict future engine behavior, diagnose engine faults, identify when engine performance is out of specification, identify engine quality, or design a new engine system, or a combination thereof.

13. (currently amended) The method of claim 12, further comprising segmenting the engine data into [[a]] the plurality of groups throughout a preselected moving time ~~moving~~ window.

14. (currently amended) The method of claim 12, further comprising segmenting the engine data into [[a]] the plurality of groups throughout discrete time ranges.

15. (currently amended) The method of claim 12, further comprising generating a set of estimated regression parameters for each of the plurality of groups based upon the regression analysis, wherein each set of estimated regression parameters are representative of a baseline model for [[each]] that group.

16. (original) The method of claim 15, further comprising:
calculating a time series for each estimated regression parameter; and
calculating a trend for each estimated regression parameter over time.

17. (currently amended) The method of claim 15, further comprising:
identifying fluctuations in trends for each estimated regression parameter representative of engine faults;
evaluating trends having identified fluctuations; and
identifying ~~parameter-estimate~~parameters estimating trends relating to baseline trend shifts.

18. (original) The method of claim 17, further comprising mapping engine data to an uncorrelated data set using a principal component analysis technique.

19. (original) The method of claim 12, wherein the processing step further comprising extracting engine data from the engine services database.

20. (original) The method of claim 12, further comprising validating the engine baseline model.

21. (original) The method of claim 12, further comprising generating rules for cleaning the preprocessed data.

22. (original) The method of claim 12, further comprising evaluating performance of the engine baseline model.

23. (currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium incorporating computer instructions, which when executed on a computer perform a process for ~~quantifying~~ building an engine baseline model ~~quality~~ for fuel-powered engines, comprising:

~~one or more~~ instructions for storing engine data in an engine service database for fuel-powered engines;

~~one or more~~ instructions for processing the engine data into a predetermined format in a preprocessor, wherein the ~~one or more~~ instructions for processing ~~one or more~~ include instructions for segmenting the engine data into a plurality of groups based upon specific types of engines and further based upon specific time periods during which each data element was measured;

~~one or more~~ instructions for building an engine baseline model for each of the plurality of groups using ~~a regression~~ regression analysis, wherein the regression analysis relates engine performance variables as ~~a function~~ functions of engine operating ~~conditions~~ parameters;

instructions for using the engine baseline model to monitor engine status, predict future engine behavior, diagnose engine faults, identify when engine performance is out of specification, identify engine quality, or design a new engine system, or a combination thereof.

24. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 23, further comprising ~~one or more~~ instructions for segmenting the engine data into [[a]] the plurality of groups throughout a preselected moving time ~~moving~~ window.

25. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 23, further comprising ~~one or more~~ instructions for segmenting the engine data into [[a]] the plurality of groups throughout discrete time ranges.

26. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 23, further comprising ~~one or more~~ instructions for generating a set of estimated regression parameters for each of the plurality of groups based upon the regression analysis, wherein each set of estimated regression parameters are representative of a baseline model for [[each]] that group.

27. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 25, further comprising:

~~one or more~~ instructions for calculating a time series for each estimated regression parameter; and

~~one or more~~ instructions for calculating a trend for each estimated regression parameter over time.

28. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 26, further comprising:

~~one or more~~ instructions for identifying fluctuations in trends for each estimated regression parameter representative of engine faults;

~~one or more~~ instructions for evaluating trends having identified fluctuations; and

~~one or more~~ instructions for identifying ~~parameter estimate~~ parameters estimating trends relating to baseline trend shifts.

29. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 28, further comprising ~~one or more~~ instructions for mapping engine data to an uncorrelated data set using a principal component analysis technique.

30. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 23, wherein the ~~one or more~~ instructions for processing further comprise one or more instructions for extracting engine data from the engine services database.

31. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 23, further comprising ~~one or more~~ instructions for validating the engine baseline model.

32. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 23, further comprising ~~one or more~~ instructions for generating rules for cleaning the preprocessed data.

33. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 23, further comprising ~~one or more~~ instructions for evaluating performance of the engine baseline model.

34. (new) A computer implemented method for building an engine baseline model for combustion-based engines, comprising:

storing engine data in an engine service database for combustion-based engines;

processing the engine data into a predetermined format in a preprocessor, wherein the processing includes segmenting the engine data into a plurality of groups based upon specific types of engines and further based upon specific time periods during which each data element was measured;

building an engine baseline model for each of the plurality of groups using regression analysis, wherein the regression analysis relates engine performance variables as functions of engine operating conditions; and

outputting at least one aspect of the engine baseline model for display on a monitor.

35. (new) A computer-readable storage medium incorporating computer instructions, which when executed on a computer perform a process for building an engine baseline model for combustion-based engines, comprising:

instructions for storing engine data in an engine service database for combustion-based engines;

instructions for processing the engine data into a predetermined format in a preprocessor, wherein the instructions for processing include instructions for segmenting the engine data into a plurality of groups based upon specific types of engines and further based upon specific time periods during which each data element was measured;

instructions for building an engine baseline model for each of the plurality of groups using regression analysis, wherein the regression analysis relates engine performance variables as functions of engine operating parameters; and

instructions for outputting at least one aspect of the engine baseline model for display on a monitor.